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Letter from Anna Clemson to Floride Clemson, 1858 June 13

Anna Marie Calhoun Clemson

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June 13th 1858
CUCLE 580613
A
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My dearest daughter,
The every day
you are
doing home
gladly & cheerfully
I, better
The every day
you are
doing home
gladly & cheerfully
I, better

You have
received my letter containing the
sad intelligence of the death of
your dear uncle. I have not
heard from your grandfather
since his brief letter, announcing
it & am anxious to do so. Mr.
Pier says Mr Van Wyck is coming
on this week, to take home his
daughter, who is in New York, & I have
urged her to come on with him. I
hope she will do so. I don't like her
staying there, where every thing reminds
her of him. Charge of scene will be of
service to her.

You don't know, my darling, what a
pleasure what you say in your letter
of me, was to me. Don't misunder-
stand me, I think my vanity was
gratified. I know well, there are
many as good, & better mothers
than I am, but I feel that I have
not gone far wrong in doing my
duty, when my daughter says

I think what you do, & besides I am
so happy you can have that most
delightful of all feelings which arises
from the thought that we should have
chosen our parent from the whole
world could we have done so. Coming
at the time it did, this touches me
very deeply, & indeed are to feel, that
life has yet many duties & pleasures
for me, while my dear children
love & value me. You know how
entirely I live for you all & my
only reward is your love & respect.

I am counting the days till you
come. Calhoun's holidays begin
at the same time so you will all
be at home once more. I hope
you will return my daughter,
determined to do your part in
maintaining peace with your
father & brother. Remember if
our duties are easy we may
be happy it is so but no matter
how difficult they may be to
perform they are no less impera-
tively our duties & we are none
the less culpable in neglecting
them but on the other hand the
satisfaction we feel in conquering
ourselves & the appreciation of

those who love us amply repay us
for the effort to do right. Never
permit yourself to think or say
that the wrong doing of others is an
excuse for us. For what others do
we are not responsible but we
are for our own conduct both to
God & man.

Bring home when you come
all your things. I do not think
I can spare you again. The separa-
tion, for a whole year, is too
painful, & it seems impossible
for me to get to you - besides,
the two years for which I made
up my mind it was advisable
you should leave home, are
passed, & I think you can now,
by taking music & singing lessons,
for which, on enquiring, I find there
are excellent teachers in working-
ton, continue to improve yourself
by a judicious course of reading
at home. You are I am awfully
young to leave school tho not
younger than I was when I did
- so now do I intend you shall
yet come out as a young lady,
but I simply wish to have you
near me, & think as your future

life & duties lie at home you
should not be too long alienated
from them. I look forward ^{with delight} to
the idea of having you with me
permanently. So many laps in
my family make me feel as tho'
I could no longer spare you
besides the climate of Philadel-
phia is very severe & both winters
that you have been there you have
had dreadful colds & I do not
feel it right you should risk
another winter there. This climate
is mild & dry & we never have
severe colds which renders it more
suitable for you. — I get Lizzie
to cut you a good ^{new} ~~new~~ pattern
& a good low neck pattern. If she
fits you as well as she did me
tell her I shall be content for my
pattern she cut does admirably
& enables me to make all my
dresses & make them fit better than
the ~~man~~ ^{man}tra makers did. Your
father will put in something for
your neck Baker. Don't lose it.
Don't forget Bathurst's rapping ring
dark ~~dark~~ overcoat. He has not had
a mark since he has been at school
& is in the first class of order.
Pia was very sick for twenty-four
days this week but is well again. The